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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/976,630	10/11/2001	Robert E. Haines	10007585-1	1660

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER	
AILES, BENJAMIN A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2142	

DATE MAILED: 03/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/976,630

Applicant(s)

HAINES, ROBERT E.

Examiner

Benjamin A Ailes

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-27 have been examined.
2. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Drawings

3. The drawings received on 11 October 2001 are acceptable for examination proceedings.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 12-17, 19-22, and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hayward et al. (U.S. 6,629,134), hereinafter referred to as Hayward et al.

Art Unit: 2142

7. Regarding claims 1, 8, and 21, Hayward et al. disclose a method of configuring a hard copy output engine comprising:

- Downloading data including a configuration plug-in and configuration data each including user-specified information (col. 4, lines 12-19 and col. 7, lines 48-60); and
- Configuring the hard copy output engine using the downloaded data (col. 7, lines 48-60).

8. Regarding claim 15, Hayward et al. disclose a computer implemented control system for a hard copy output engine, the system comprising:

- Memory configured to store a software module (col. 4, lines 15-19 and col. 6, lines 47-53); and
- Processing circuitry configured to employ the software module to:
 - Download data including a configuration plug-in and configuration data each including user-specified information (col. 4, lines 12-19 and col. 7, lines 48-60); and
 - Configure a hard copy output engine using the downloaded data (col. 7, lines 48-60).

9. Regarding claims 2, 9, 16, and 22, in accordance with claims 1, 8, 15, and 21, respectively, Hayward et al. disclose the method wherein the configuration plug-in and configuration data include data prepared by:

- Determining a make and model for the hard copy output engine (see Abstract and col. 3, line 65 – col. 4, line 2); and

Art Unit: 2142

- Determining user thresholds for consumables associated with the hard copy output engine (col. 8, lines 38-44).

10. Regarding claim 3, in accordance with claim 1, Hayward et al. disclose the method wherein downloading includes:

- Sending an electronic message via the Internet to a website for a vendor associated with the hard copy output engine (col. 4, lines 5-11); and
- Receiving an electronic message via the Internet in response to sending (col. 4, lines 13-18).

11. Regarding claims 5, 12, 17, and 25, in accordance with claims 1, 8, 15, and 21, respectively, Hayward et al. disclose the method wherein configuring includes setting a threshold for an element chosen from a group consisting of: pigmentation material, marking material, number of hours of operation and number of sheets of print media consumed (col. 2, lines 33-35 and col. 8, lines 38-44).

12. Regarding claims 6, 13, 19, and 26, in accordance with claims 1, 8, 15, and 21, respectively, Hayward et al. disclose the method wherein the hard copy output engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers (col. 3, lines 44-48).

13. Regarding claims 7, 14, 20, and 27, in accordance with claims 1, 8, 15, and 21, respectively, Hayward et al. disclose the method wherein the configuration plug-in and configuration data include data prepared by:

- Determining a make and model for the hard copy output engine (see Abstract and col. 3, line 65 – col. 4, line 2);

- Determining a serial number for the hard copy output engine (see Abstract and col. 3, line 65 – col. 4, line 2 and col. 4, lines 56-60); and
- Determining user thresholds for consumables associated with the hard copy output engine (col. 8, lines 38-44).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

14. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. Claims 4, 10, 11, 18, 23, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayward et al. in view of Uchida et al. (U.S. 6,317,570), hereinafter referred to as Uchida et al.

16. Regarding claims 4, 10, 11, 18, 23, and 24, Hayward et al. disclosed the method of sending and receiving electronic message transmissions (col. 4, lines 5-11, 13-18) via the Internet and Internet access provided by Internet service providers, but are silent on the use of a firewall. However in related prior art, Uchida et al. disclose a method for a user and a service center for the peripherals to establish communication via the Internet and have it secured by use of a firewall (see Fig. 1, Fig. 2, col. 3, lines 3-35). One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have found it obvious to utilize the use of a firewall as disclosed in the method of communication utilized by Uchida et al. in order to achieve the desired level of security and protection a firewall offers (Uchida et al., col. 3, lines 3-4 and 30-32). It is for this that one of

ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify and improve the communication method disclosed by Hayward et al. to represent the more secure communication via the Internet method disclosed by Uchida et al.

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Carcerano et al. (U.S. 6,308,205) disclose browser-based network management allowing administrators to use web browser on user's workstation to view and update configuration of network devices.

Ylonen (U.S. 6,782,474) discloses a network connectable device and method for its installation and configuration.

Hansen (U.S. 5,838,907) discloses a configuration manager for network devices and an associated method for providing configuration information thereto.

Kraslavsky et al. (U.S. 5,537,626) disclose an apparatus for coupling printer with LAN to control printer operation by transferring control parameters, printer status data and printer configuration data between printer and LAN.

Orzol et al. (U.S. 5,768,583) disclose a method and system for network printer quick configuration.

Perlman et al. (U.S. 6,023,585) disclose automatically selecting and downloading device drivers from a server system to a client system that includes one or more devices.

Hayes (U.S. 6,006,279) discloses a plug-in module host framework.

Haines et al. (U.S. 6,233,409) disclose redundant reorder prevention for replaceable printer components.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin A. Ailes, whose telephone number is (571)272-3899. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (6:30-4).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Harvey can be reached at (571)272-3896. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-3906.

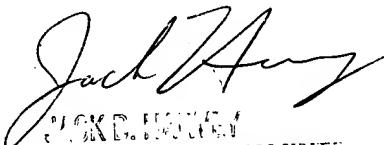
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [benjamin.ailles@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file.

PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Benjamin Ailes
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2142



JACK H. HINES
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER